

QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION

1. What does “the fullness of the time” mean?
2. Why was it necessary for Jesus to be born into the human family?
Could He have accomplished His purpose as a spiritual being? Why?
3. How did Christ fulfill the law?

SUMMARY:

To believe that Jesus is the Son of God and Son of man, and that He had to die for our sins can change our lives. [SoF:4] His love for us is comfort, strength, and assurance that if we are led by His Spirit we are His children. He gave His all. Can we do less?

NOTES:

[SoF:4] We believe that Jesus Christ is God incarnate, born of a virgin, and lived a sinless life. He died on the cross for us. His shed blood is the atonement for our sins.

APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN CHURCH

Bible Lesson #12

December 20, 2026

Fourth Quarter

THE INCARNATION [SoF:4]

LESSON TEXT: *Galatians 4:4-7; 1 John 4:1-10*

LESSON SETTING: Apostle Paul writing to the Galatians. John’s letter to the believers.

TIME: Approximately 55 A.D.

- I. TIME OF INCARNATION.** Galatians 4:4
 - A. The End of Israel as a Nation. Genesis 49:10, 2 Kings 17: 6, 18
 - B. Time Revealed to Daniel. Daniel 9:24-25; Hebrews 9:26
 - C. The Fullness of the Time. Galatians 4:4
- II. NATURE OF THE INCARNATION.** Galatians 4:4
 - A. The Seed of the Woman. Genesis 3:15
 - B. The Word was Made Flesh. John 1:14
 - C. The Seed of David. Romans 1:3
 - D. Made Under the Law. Galatians 4:4
 - E. Partaker of Death. Hebrews 2:14
- III. PURPOSE OF THE INCARNATION.** Galatians 4:5-7
 - A. To Give His Life as a Ransom. Matthew 20:28
 - B. To Give the Abundant Life. John 10:10
 - C. To Redeem People That are Under the Law. Galatians 4:5
 - D. To Save Sinners. 1 Timothy 1:15
 - E. To Shed His Precious Blood to Redeem Sinners. Romans 3:25
1 Peter 1:18-19
- IV. MOTIVE OF THE INCARNATION.** 1 John 4:1-10
 - A. The Love of God Toward Us. 1 John 4:1-10

GOLDEN TEXT: *HEREIN IS LOVE, NOT THAT WE LOVED GOD, BUT THAT HE LOVED US, AND SENT HIS SON TO BE THE PROPITIATION FOR OUR SINS.*

1 John 4:10

NEXT SUNDAY'S LESSON: Acts 19:1-20
SUPPLEMENTAL REFERENCES: Isaiah 55:6-11

QUARTERLY THEME: Life and Writings of Paul

TOPIC: REVIVAL AT EPHESUS

INTRODUCTION:

The work at Ephesus had its beginning in the teaching of John the Baptist. Paul having left Macedonia had gone into Achaia making his last stop at Corinth. From there he had crossed the sea again to the Asian mainland and apparently went directly to Ephesus. Meeting a few disciples, he found they had only heard the message of John, but now through Paul's ministry they came to the fuller knowledge of Jesus Christ and were baptized in His name and received the Holy Ghost.

As so often happened, some hearts were hardened, so Paul had to leave the synagogue and meet in a separate place. From this location Paul was able to continue his ministry for two years experiencing rich blessings from God, even so much that everyone who dwelt in this part of Asia (current-day Türkiye) heard the Gospel and many were healed of their diseases.

The power of God was revealed in a wonderful and mighty way and a great revival took place. Many believed and came, confessing their deeds and destroying their evil books. In other words, lives were changed and the power of the Holy Ghost filled these hearts. This same power can and must change lives today if we are to bear the name of Christian.

CENTRAL TRUTH: Preaching the Word of God in faith and power brings repentance, regeneration, and revival.

GOLDEN TEXT: ***SO MIGHTILY GREW THE WORD OF GOD AND PREVAILED.*** Acts 19:20

Under the ministry of a dedicated, totally yielded man of God, great things happened. People came confessing their sins and devoting their lives to Jesus. Had Paul been less zealous or less devoted to His Master, the Word of God perhaps would not have gone out as it did. However, because he was so dedicated, God was able to fill him with unusual powers, and miracles were performed.

The evidence from our lesson should teach us that the Word of God can prevail today too, if we can separate ourselves from our earthly pleasures and the things that so often fill our lives. In a sense we become slaves to such a busy schedule not realizing how damaging it is to our spiritual lives.

May God give us grace to be more devoted to Him so that the Word of God can grow and prevail today also. Certainly, we must acknowledge that there is no other answer to the ills of society today.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF Dec. 21 – 27

Mon. *The Holy Spirit Acts at Ephesus. Acts 19:1-7
Tue. *God's Power Manifested at Ephesus. Acts 19:8-20
Wed. Idolatry Challenges Truth. Acts 19:21-29
Thu. Riot and Rebellion Against Truth. Acts 19:30-41
Fri. Apostolic Concern for the Ephesians. Ephesians 1:15-23
Sat. Apostolic Instruction to the Ephesians. Ephesians 3:1-12
Sun. A Divine Analysis and Challenge. Revelation 2:1-7

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